



COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES MINUTES

Monday, September 10, 2007
6:00 PM

FIFTH FLOOR LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL,
3900 MAIN STREET, RIVERSIDE, 92522
GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 951-826-5427

MISSION STATEMENT

"The mission of the Commission on Disabilities is to promote greater awareness of, respect for, and the total participation of individuals with disabilities into all aspects of life."

CALL TO ORDER: 6:06 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. Roll Call: Chairperson Paul Van Doren, Vice-Chair Gigi Welch, Linda Garcia, Debbie Keller, Lesley Robinson, and Donald Hawecker

ABSENT (excused): James Stream, Gene Brosious, Susanne Puffer

Also in attendance were Residents John Lonberg, Margaret Johnson, Ty & Linda Lawyer; Donna Kirchoff, Inland Regional Center, CTAP Outreach Specialist Terry Howell, Administrative Services Manager Susan Cox, Deputy City Attorney Neil Okazaki and ADA Coordinator Monique Gordon

2. **Introductions and Public Comment Period** - This is the portion of the meeting specifically set aside to invite your comments regarding any matter within the Commission's jurisdiction.
3. Minutes for the meeting of August 13, 2007

M/S Robinson/Welch to approve the minutes as corrected:

AYES – 5 (Van Doren, Welch, Garcia, Robinson, Hawecker), OBSTAIN – 1 (Keller)

OLD BUSINESS

1. Brochure Development – Commissioner Biography information will be collected for the COD brochure.

ADA Coordinator Monique Gordon will contact individual COD members and collect their biographies or other information to be noted in the brochure.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation from Terry Howell demonstrating the California Telephone Access Program (CTAP) a State program which provides free special phones to people of any age or income living in California and having difficulty seeing, moving, hearing, speaking, or remembering.

Outreach Specialist Terry Howell noted that she was a former sign language interpreter and is very involved in the disabled community. She noted that CTAP began 30 years ago and demonstrated several phones designed for use by people with various disabilities.

An application is required in order to receive a phone. An application can be filled out online or over the phone – the CTAP number is located in the Yellow Pages. The application process follows:

- a. Fill out information about yourself,
- b. Disability must be certified by a certifying agent for all disabilities
- c. Send the application in to CTAP
- d. After 3 weeks call and a phone will be mailed to you.
- e. Each disabled person in the home is eligible for a phone which suites their individual needs

2. Report from Debbie Keller concerning Tequesquite and Mt. Fairmont Park Task Force meetings.

Commissioner Keller noted that there had been a meeting at White Park which included Shane's Inspiration to discuss two conceptual plans concerning the rear side of Fairmont Park. Staff from Parks and Recreation, Shane's Inspiration the Design Architect and COD accepted the plan with ADA issues considered.

Commissioner Puffer requested that Bob Johnson consider the accessibility in walkways and other areas around the universally accessible playground equipment for disabled children in these playgrounds.

3. Meeting of the upcoming Joint Commission Task Force concerning Universally Accessible Playgrounds to discuss Universally Accessible Playgrounds.

Upcoming will be a joint meeting between COD and Parks and Recreation staff to discuss planning of the universally accessible playground for Fairmont Park.

4. Report from Debbie Keller concerning La Sierra Community Center conceptual Design plans.

Commissioners Keller and Puffer attended a meeting to consider conceptual design plans for the La Sierra Community Center. They noted that 13,000 square feet would be added to the senior center. Meetings to discuss design plans will be ongoing.

5. COD Banners are available for public events.

This item was noted by the COD. Banner clips will be procured for mounting banners to tables and tents at events.

6. Development of specific questions for Captain Mark Boyer, RPD Support Operations and Communications, concerning RPD interaction with the disabled and training policies.

As specific questions arise, they will be forwarded to RPD for response.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Report from Code Enforcement concerning obstruction of sidewalks by trash cans and vehicles.

City Code Enforcement will draft a courtesy reminder for public distribution concern sidewalk obstruction by trash containers.

Resident Linda Lawyer noted that citizens can call 311 in order to keep Riverside Clean and Beautiful.

2. No-Show Policy - City of Riverside Special Transportation Section – ongoing discussion concerning the No-Show Policy penalties and appeals process.

ADA Coordinator will follow up with Special Transportation concerning progress on the Appeals Policy which is currently under development. The COD will make a recommendation to City Council concerning the revised Policy.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S Hawecker/Welch and unanimous to adjourn the COD meeting at 7:30 pm

AYES – 6 (Van Doren, Welch, Garcia, Robinson, Hawecker, Keller), NOES – 0; OBSTAIN – 0

There are no audio or video recordings of this meeting.